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The Common Cause

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All MSS. and letters relating thereto should be addressed to the Editor, The Common Cause, *Evelyn House, 62, Oxford Street, W. 1. Telephone: Museum 2702.]*

Notes and News.

Women and the Peace Conference.

One of the objects set forth in the N.U.W.S.S. Programme is that women should be included among the British delegates to the International Conference of the Powers, and that the delegates should urge the enfranchisement of women upon the other nations represented. Probably many women's societies besides the N.U.W.S.S., and many individual women, are heart-wholly desirous that women should be directly represented at the coming Peace Conference. It is obvious that women are equally with men interested in a just and lasting settlement, and it is also obvious that the point of view of women is apt to be overlooked if there is no one to bring it to the notice of Statesmen and Plenipotentiaries. The claim of women to Parliamentary representation has long been conceded in New Zealand and Australia, and more recently in Canada and Great Britain; the right of women to share in the advantages of self-government, and to have a voice in the affairs of their respective countries has thus been recognised in the larger portion of the British Empire; the logical outcome of this advance in the principle of democracy is that women should also find a place at the Conference where terms of Peace are to be discussed and settled. It will be agreed by all who have studied history, and especially French history, that the presence of women at the Conference will not be so much an innovation as a reversion, in a democratic form, to a principle which has been acted upon in times long past: at a period when practically all political power was vested in hereditary rulers, women were often entrusted with the negotiation of international affairs: the Peace of Cambrai in the reign of François Premier being one example. Democracy should not be content to fall behind autocracy in this respect. The resolution passed by the N.U.W.S.S. Council urging that the delegates of Great Britain and the Dominions at the Conference should be instructed to recommend those countries where women are not yet enfranchised to give their women political freedom is based on the conviction that free representative governments, founded on liberty and equality, and existing, so far as is possible universally, would improve the prospect of establishing a lasting peace. As it is the mass of people who suffer through war, it is clearly safer in the interests of peace to place the power in the hands of the people; and this argument holds good—and with even greater force—where women are reckoned among "the people." Human beings are no exception to the law that governs the animal kingdom, by which the male is the fighting sex; if the non-fighting sex were invested with equal power all over Europe, the risk of war would be proportionately diminished.

Women M.P.'s.

Fourteen women candidates, according to the latest news on going to press, are going to contest the coming Election, four in the Liberal Coalition interest, three in the Labour interest and seven as Independents. The title "Independent" covers two kinds of candidates: firstly, those women who support the Coalition but whose candidature has not been officially sanctioned; secondly, those who, although possibly "Coalition" in sympathy, call themselves Independent because they are standing in the especial interest of one class of electors. Thus four of the five women candidates in London divisions are Independent. We publish a complete list on p. 406.

The Labour Party and Women.

Whatever their political opinions women will never forget that the Labour Party was the first party to place equal suffrage upon its programme. It was therefore to be expected that women's interests would be mentioned in its recently published manifesto. The section headed "The Real Women's Party" states that Labour stands for adult suffrage, equal pay, and "the organisation of men and women workers into one trade union movement." The third of these principles is extremely important, in view of the consistent refusal of some men's unions to admit women.

Women's Suffrage in U.S.A.

Our recent great victories, both military and feminist, do not make us indifferent to the new suffrage victory in America. It is with intense satisfaction that we announce that Oklahama, Michigan and South Dakota have added themselves to the number of States where women have full suffrage. We congratulate American suffragists on this success, which will be an encouragement and an inspiration not only to the women of the other States who are still unenfranchised, but to women all over the world who are hoping and working for political freedom.

The Invincible Tide.

Women doctors have long been taken for granted; we are accustomed to women as preachers, police, 'bus conductors, shipbuilders, foresters, bank clerks, engineers; to women in administrative posts in Government Offices; to women in the services. Women parliamentary candidates and women election agents are already a reality, and we hope women M.P.'s will be so soon. And now another stronghold is reported to have fallen before the advancing tide: the Hungarian Republic has appointed Frau Rosika Schwimmer, a feminist writer, Minister to Switzerland. Diplomacy is opening its doors to women. What of the other barriers? How long will the English legal profession hold stubbornly out against a force which is bound sooner or later to overcome it?

Demobilisation of Munition Workers.

On November 3rd. about two thousand women employees of a munition factory in London marched to Whitehall to see the Prime Minister with regard to their discharge, which was, for some of them, due on the following day. A meeting was then arranged between the management of the factory and representatives of the workers, as a result of which the notices of discharge were temporarily withdrawn. The Prime Minister is also going to receive a deputation with reference to the demand of Woolwich Munition workers that existing machinery and employees should be used for work of national importance, other than munitions.

YOUR VOTE BEFORE ELECTION.

WE have barely a fortnight now before polling day, and most of us have our minds full of the General Election. Yet amid all the bustle and confusion of electioneering, the woman voter has moments when she feels that she is not, for all her enfranchisement, taking as active a part as she could wish in the political crisis. What is there for the woman voter to do before December 14th ?

The woman-voter's vote is just as useful to her to-day as it will be in a fortnight's time : it carries with it the same influence and the same responsibilities. During the coming fortnight she can do as much as on polling day to make her vote felt. The good feminist should now be trying to get good feminists returned to Parliament. Where a candidate is standing—no matter whether man or woman—with feminist reform on his programme, the women of his constituency should at once ofler him all the help they can give. It is necessary to remember, however, that help should only be given with the knowledge and authorisation of the candidate, otherwise the well-intentioned helper may fall foul of the Corrupt Practices Regulations! Where a candidate is standing whose views on feminist reform are not stated, the women of his constituency should make it their business to find out what these are. They must draw up together a list of questions, and send these in, signed with the names of prominent local women. The questions should deal with the establishment of an equal moral standard, the reform of the guardianship laws, equal pay for equal work, the opening of all professions to women.* They must insist on an explicit answer to their questions, for then they will not only know how best to use their votes, but will make the candidates feel that they have a real point of view to be considered.

Where an anti-feminist candidate is standing, most women will not hesitate how to act. They must register their opposition to his attitude at every possible opportunity. When the time for voting comes they must, of course, decide individually how to act. There are questions which are, perhaps, more pressing than feminist reform, but none more crucial.

* For questions see The Common Cause for November 29th, page 362, and the new leaflet issued by the N.U.W.S.S., which has been posted to secretaries of societies this week.

The Election and the C.D. Acts.

40D D.O.R.A. has gone. But this does not mean that all danger of legislation involving some of the worst features of the Contagious Diseases Acts may not be suggested in the new Parliament. It is important therefore that suffragists should secure statements from candidates of all the parties that they will oppose legislation which seeks to suppress sexual immorality and disease by penalising one party in an attempt to protect the other, which is the principle underlying the maintenance of tolerated houses and regulation 40D. D.O.R.A.

Although the Government has felt it could not face the women at the polls with 40D still in force, it is well very closely to examine the statement which accompanied its withdrawal. The announcement is that

"40 D is revoked, on a recommendation from the Committee presided over by Lord Moulton, which, without pronouncing any final opinion on the merits of the regulation, advised that *in its present form* it should be regarded only as a war measure and should be dropped on the cessation of hostilities."

There is a clear indication here that as soon as the election is safely over we shall have to meet attempts to introduce this regulation in another form. It is probably certain that, with so many candidates and parties promising to "remove inequalities in the law as between men and women," any proposal made will be at least verbally applicable to both sexes.

The attempts to introduce legislation of this kind which date from early in the war have been increasingly pressing during the last eighteen months. There was the Criminal Law Amendment Bill in March, 1917, which sought to introduce the compulsory examination of imprisoned prostitutes, and which included a clause verbally equal between men and women making the 40D offence applicable to both. There was the later form of that Bill with the added proposals that it should be possible to detain young girls convicted of solicitation in prisons which were given the name of "homes." There were the tolerated brothels in France where the women were "kept clean" for the use of the soldiers. There was 40D, and finally the Sexual Offences Bill and the latest Criminal Law Amendment Bill. There has also been the Brentford case where women under duress were compelled to undergo the examination which the Government in rather ambiguous language acknowledged to be illegal if undertaken without the woman's consent. Nothing however has so far reached the Statute Book.

In this connection it is important to notice a statement recently issued by the National Council for Combating Venereal Disease, a quasi official organisation, in which some very dangerous proposals are made. Notwithstanding that that Council nominally exists to promote the recommendations of the Royal Commissions which was opposed to compulsory notification one proposal now made is that

"The Local Government Board should consider immediately whether some form of confidential notification of infective cases could be adopted under existing powers, and whether at a later date fresh powers should be obtained from Parliament to secure continuous treatment."

This is a most dangerous proposal because it makes the suggestion that the matter of compulsory notification, which is recognised as being likely to frighten patients away from the treatment centres, should be made a question of a departmental order and not of an Act of Parliament. During the war 40D was passed by such order because the House of Commons had refused to pass legislation. It would be a much more serious thing if now the end of D.O.R.A. is in sight any Government Department were to assume to issue orders on the question. Such a suggestion is doubly dangerous because in the continental countries where regulation is in force it has been introduced not by Acts of the Legislatures but by Police administrative order. In this country the C.D. Acts were adopted by Parliament and could be repealed, so that to give any such power to a Government Department is an innovation most strenuously to be opposed. The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies recognised the danger of compulsory notification as likely to work out unjustly when it included in a resolution passed in February, 1917, a condemnation "of any scheme for compulsory notification of venereal disease."

The N.C.C.V.D. also recommend the passage of Clause 5 of the Criminal Law Amendment Bill in its amended form without indicating which particular amended form they propose. On this whole question of the communication of venereal disease the Association for Moral and Social Hygiene which has given so much thought to the subject has come to the conclusion that children, married persons, and those indulging in promiscuous intercourse should each be differently dealt with. Their view is embodied in the following resolution :

"The A.M.S.H is not now prepared to approve any general measure for penalising the communication of venereal disease; but considers that children and young persons should be specially safeguarded against infection, by amending S. 12 of the Children Act, 1908 (as to causing injury to health by neglect or ill-treatment) so as to cover all cases of venereal infection by negligence or assault. The Association is of opinion that cases of conjugal infection should not be met by penalisation, but by legislation on carefully cosidered lines giving statutory recognition to the principle that 'infectious venereal disease is an incapacity for marriage' as recommended by the Royal Commission on Divorce and the Royal Commission on Venereal Diseases. The Association is also of opinioa that as regards infection arising in promiscuous sexual intercourse penalisation, even if it were otherwise desirable, could not be worked satisfactorily, owing, *inter alia*, to the extreme difficulty of proof in the large majority of these cases, and further that, if the experiment were tried, it would not secure any ultimate reduction in the prevalence of venereal disease."

This is a difficult and complicated question, but there are certain points upon which all candidates shoud be asked to make definte statements. At the February meeting of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies the Council declared its "unalterable opposition" to any compulsory physical examination for venereal disease. This is probably one of the best and simplest points on which to concentrate. I suggest that candidates of all parties should be asked to state :—

(1) That they are opposed to any *compulsory* examination for venereal disease.

(2) That they will support the raising of the age of consent to eighteen for young persons of both sexes and the abolishing of the plea of "reasonable cause to believe."

If the age of consent were raised to eighteen there would be no more possibility of having young girls labelled as prostitutes and compusorily detained in "homes" instead of being protected up to that age.

CHRYSTAL MACMILLAN.

The Demobilisation of Women.

TWO QUESTIONS FOR THE GOVERNMENT.

BY MAJOR J. W. HILLS, M.P.

The turnover from war to peace is much less difficult than is supposed. Plans are already far advanced. It is stated that the Ministry of Munitions have already settled the future of every government factory; settled, that is, what it can make, not who shall make it, about which a word later. Many private employers are in the same position and have long ago determined their peace activities. Moreover, even now in war time six factories out of every ten of those engaged on munitions are making their peace products, so that no turnover is required. Lastly, in the case of that great raw material, steel, the change over from shell steel to commercial steel is both a quick and a simple business. When these facts are considered, they remove many difficulties which before seemed great. There will be delay, of course; you cannot switch over from war to peace by merely crossing the road: the tools have to be cut, the factories fitted and the staffs trained in the new processes. All this takes time: but the time need not be long, and the maintenance of workers during transition, which should be a national burden, should not be unduly costly.

But this rosy picture has another side and unfortunately it is this darker side which chiefly affects women. There are two great underlying obstacles to the quick demobilisation of women. Both are matters which the Government must decide: and it is impossible to exaggerate the danger of delay and the importance of an early decision. The first of these is the future of the National Factories. The second is the Restoration of Trade Union Conditions.

The possibility of each National Factory, whatever it be, whether Shell Factory or Filling Factory or Explosive Factory, is known, not merely generally, but in the case of each individual building. So far, so good. But who is to take over and run these new businesses? It is vital to women to know. They form the bulk of the workers, and the decision taken will affect profoundly their industrial future.

Three alternatives are possible. The factories can be sold, outright and unconditionally, to the highest bidder. They can be sold under restrictions, governing either the product made, the wages paid, the profits earned or the conditions enforced. Or lastly they can be owned and worked by the State. Which is it to be? The Government must decide. Which should we like it to be? Ah, that is a matter on which I have definite views. I want Industrial Experiments. I want the National Factories to be run either for Training or Demonstration or Experiment. I want them to probe the possibilities of women's labour. And I want them to try every sort of industrial method, however wild. I want the Six Hours Day; I want conditions of employment such as are now undreamed of: and I want high wages. But all these experiments are useless unless they are carried out on a commercial scale and under ordinary business conditions. Now is the opportunity, the best which could be imagined. Let us hope that the Government will be bold; for there is more need of boldness than of wisdom. But all this is looking ahead beyond demobilisation. At the moment the important thing is to know whether or not the National Factories are to be used so as to arrest woman's industrial future. The decision should be announced without delay.

So much for that. It is an important matter. But the other matter, Government Pledges and the Restoration of Trade Union Conditions, is infinitely more so. The Government have pledged themselves by Act of Parliament to restore at the end of the war all trade union restrictions and shop practices prevailing before the war. That is to say: if the pledge is literally fulfilled, all dilutees now working on machines which custom before the war allotted to the skilled men are to be taken off those machines, and skilled men only employed on them. It means that or nothing. Now there is hardly a woman of the million and a-half who, since the war, have gone into industry or commerce who is not a dilutee: and of this million and a-half probably three-quarters of a million or more are in industries covered by the pledges, or by trade agreements of a similar character. What is to happen to them? If they remain in industry, they can only remain as machinists. How can they remain as machinists if the Government pledge is kept? They are all dilutees, and it was against the dilutee that the Government pledge was framed.

It is for the Government to solve this momentous dilemma; and no amateur, off-hand solutions are of much use. Indeed they only darken counsel. But it is permissible to state two broad considerations. The first is that the Government pledge must be kept; or if it is varied, it can only be varied with the consent of the party to whom it was given. This is unquestionable. The promise was given by the Government and binds all of us. It was given at the most critical period of the war; and the country, which has had the advantage of it, cannot now turn round and refuse to pay the price. That price must be paid or such other price as the contracting parties will take.

The other consideration is that women were not consulted when the pledge was given: and yet they are vitally affected by the form in which it is redeemed.

It is not my business to attempt to reconcile these apparently irreconcilable considerations beyond saying that I believe they can be reconciled. But what I do want to point out is the urgency of having the question settled. It is not too much to say that until it is settled you cannot begin even to think about demobilisation. How can you change over from war to peace until you know what peace industries are open to women? If production in peace time is to be mainly large scale repetition work, as it undoubtedly will be, how can you shepherd women into the peace fold before you know that the gate is open? It is useless to talk, and it is time wasted to scheme, until you know whether women will or will not be excluded from the process-work which she has done so magnificently during the war; at which she has attained so much skill, which is a highly paid, an interesting and a dignified pursuit, and one which will be the staple form of production of the future. Whatever the answer be, woman must know it, and must lay her plans accordingly.

Speaking for myself I cannot believe that exclusion will be woman's fate. It is hardly thinkable. But the trade unions must be protected. And whatever the answer is, we ought to know it at once.

Demobilisation and Domestic Work.

Demobilisation will be no easy matter, for it is not only the question of settling the five million or more men of the Army, Navy, and Air Service into permanent occupations—a tough problem, if we think out what it means in detail, and see with our mind's eye the trains and ships, docks and wharves, food and clothing, houses and workshops, which must be provided just where and when they are wanted, in neither more nor less than the right numbers in each case. But in addition to this very complicated piece of work, the whole industrial organisation of the country has to be converted from making the things needed for war to turning out those needed for peace. We have been working as hard as we can for the last three years to adapt our factories and workshops for war purposes; we must now try and re-adapt them all in much less time to peace purposes.

What will happen to the workers in these factories and workshops? There can be no doubt that reconstruction will need all the energies of the country; there will be so much to rebuild and to replace that we shall not be able to afford to keep anyone in idleness. The labour which has been given so ungrudgingly to destroy the old world of militarism and distrust will be wanted just as much to create a new world of confidence and co-operation. No woman ought, therefore, to sit down comfortably and fold her hands in her lap; she has certainly "done her bit" in the war; "her bit" in the peace still awaits her to be done. It may be that just as women had sometimes to press hard for the privilege of helping to win the war, so too they will not always be given the opportunity of doing their best work for the peace. But they must not be discouraged. Their contribution will certainly be wanted, and England will be a worse place without it.

There must, however, inevitably be several stages in this huge industrial reorganisation. In some cases a product made for war purposes is just as useful in peace time, as, for instance, many articles of food; in other factories comparatively slight alterations will be sufficient to change the production from military to civil uses, as in the case of clothing. But the making of destructive munitions must stop at once, and, in fact, many contracts are already cancelled. In this industry

much of the work has been so sub-divided and specialized that it will take some time to arrange for the manufacture of other things.

Mr. Kellaway has told us some of the interesting changes which have been planned; how the manufacture of aeroplanes will be replaced by household furniture to fill some of the million new houses; guns by locomotives to draw the extra trains we need so much; shell fuses by electric fittings, to ease the labour of the world in many different ways; machine tools, cream separators, hosiery needles, typewriters, fountain-pens, all these things can be made in factories now making munitions. But it will take time to adapt the buildings and machinery to their new purposes, to supply the raw material, to organise the manufacture, to make arrangements for disposing of the product.

Some of the skilled workers will be needed to make these changes; but many of the unskilled ones, amongst whom are most of the women, will have no work till the reorganisation is complete.

No one really knows how many women will be unemployed in this way. No doubt some of them are only too anxious to return home and to take up again the domestic work which has been left undone in their absence; others will now for the first time start a new home of their own; others again will wish to be trained so as to be better qualified when the new work is ready; some can go straight back to the places they left in order to make munitions; others are able to undertake the voluntary work which is crying out to be done.

There is one industry, understaffed before the war, which has become denuded of workers during the war, and is eagerly offering an almost unlimited amount of work now the war is over; it will accept all kinds of workers, skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled, and will pay them at any rate a living wage, usually a good deal more than that. But it is an industry to which the workers have a strong disinclination to return. It is not that women and girls as a rule dislike domestic work. Many of them find real pleasure in its details and variety; there is great satisfaction to be got out of cooking an appetizing and nourishing dinner; out of making a pretty room clean and comfortable. It is the conditions under which the work is done, which make girls so unwilling to enter domestic service. The very name repels them. Munition workers who have acquired the habits of factory life will be even less willing to live in their employer's house and to work for him early and late. Many of them have got homes ties of their own which will make them unable to do so. No doubt the pinch of hunger may force some women to go back to conditions which are distasteful to them; that however, is a contingency which one does not like to contemplate in the interest of any of the persons concerned.

But many women who had been servants and are now thrown out of munition work, will be quite ready to return to domestic work if it is made congenial to them. Regular daily work will find many willing applicants, if the wages offered are adequate and the working hours leave them some leisure for their own affairs.

During the war employers have learned to give up many cherished habits and to accommodate their convenience to the changes of the times. If once they realise that the offer of daily service will help to solve a very knotty problem, they will continue their war habits still longer. For the employment of daily domestic workers on a large scale will be a valuable factor in tiding over the difficult time of reorganisation; it will absorb an appreciable number of workers, and will do so without delay; nor will any raw material and equipment have to be provided. It will afford immediate employment for the discharged munition worker who has had experience of domestic work (and there are many of them) under conditions which do not offend her newly-won self-respect. It will enable many an overworked mother and housewife to get a little leisure and rest; it will release her mind from absorption in material things and allow her to devote some time to other pursuits, which have perforce been neglected.

At present there are only very inadequate means of organising daily domestic work. Steps should at once be taken to urge released munition workers who have previous experience to return to this work, and to secure for them the conditions which alone will attract them. At the same time it should be made clear to employers what they must offer in order to induce any large number of servants to return to domestic service. The Women's Industrial Council is impressing upon the Employment Department of the Ministry of Labour the necessity of setting up Trade Committees for skilled daily domestic service at some Employment Exchanges to help on this work; it would be their duty to recommend conditions of service suited alike to the employers and to the workers, to stimulate both the demand for and the supply of labour, and to fit the work to the workers with a minimum loss of time and temper.

If this could be done on a large scale all over the country, the demobilisation problem as far as women are considered would be partially solved.

Some Notes on Local Government.

Labour Exchanges (Ministry of Labour).

The Labour Exchange is so familiar a feature of modern industrial life that we are apt to forget that it has only been in operation since 1910. The movement was regarded with a good deal of suspicion at first, employers (who are largely Conservative in politics) looking askance at this new method of dealing with Industry brought in by a Liberal Government; and unemployed workpeople, especially those who were unemployable, resentful if good situations at high wages and under ideal conditions were not immediately forthcoming when they had registered themselves at the Exchanges. The system was warmly received, however, by tramps and beggars, who found it very advantageous to be able to produce printed evidence that they really were looking for work, even if hoping they might not find it. That was in 1910, and in 1912 the Exchanges were finding posts for approximately two thousand persons a day. We should imagine that never has any Government Department risen so rapidly to such an amazing height of efficiency and widespread usefulness. Almost before the officials had had time to grasp even a first hasty idea of their duties, some new and important national service was laid upon their Department. In the same year, 1912, the Exchanges were charged with the administration of Part II. of the National Insurance Act (dealing with unemployment) affecting 1,600,000 men and women. This Act, as is well known, only dealt at first with five of the great constructional trades, but during the period 1912-1914 it was extended to embrace other trades, with the result that two million people were soon under the direct care of this Department.

Meantime the network of offices has been spread over the whole kindom, so that now no man is more than ten miles from a Labour Exchange, or one of the Local Agents. In July, 1914, secret instructions reached all the Divisional Offices of the Ministry of Labour to mobilise for war. Thereafter, for some considerable time, the offices were open day and night in many places, and men worked to the point of delirium. Batches of men for all sorts of war purposes were collected and sent hurriedly to camps, ports, and other places; employers were advised on questions of military service; trade exemptions were decided; inspection made for War Office contracts; and in every case it should be noted that the organisation for each new piece of work as it hastily followed another had to be built up while the work was being proceeded with. There was no precedent for, and no previous organisation ready to deal with any of these things. In 1915 was formed the Ministry of Munitions, and for a year and more the same Divisional Officers of the Exchanges managed the inspection, dilution, and substitution of labour in connection with the manufacture of munitions. There followed also the Munition Workers' Insurance Act, by which another 3,000,000 people were added to their books, making 5,000,000 in all. This Department dealt with and classified the National Register and the National Service papers; it procured and placed workmen from abroad—Canadians, Australians, Chinese, Portuguese; settled aliens on work of national importance as an alternative of internment, and found work for conscientious objectors who accepted alternative service. Under its supervision came Press individual advertisements, war agricultural labour schemes, the training as artificers of boys in the Air Service, and apprentices to deep-sea fishing. It arranged what work should be given priority by the Admiralty, registered lodgings for munition workers, protected Irish workers after Conscription came into force, and decided which firms should become Controlled firms. It issued building licences, wrote books on subjects connected with its work for the Government, and opened crêches for the babies of women on munition work.

In addition to these special war activities, of which a few are given above, the officers of the Ministry of Labour deal with quite a bewildering variety of other national industrial matters. Imagine, for instance, the same Department which is occupied with the subjects previously mentioned being also responsible for protecting the workers from industrial diseases, supervision of hop-pickers, the employment of Lascars in British ships. the Workers' Compensation Act, the training of midwives,

Father: "Here's a letter from Doris: she says, 'Peace at last. Home soon—Three cheers!—but we shall miss our Hut. I wonder if the Blue Triangle is going strong at home.'"

Mother: "They say the Y.W.C.A. mean to start clubs wherever the girls need them. Let's help them here. How much can *we* give?"

In Peace as in War

THE Blue Triangle must stand by the Girls. They have had their huts and clubs in France, in camps at home, and in munition centres; and are asking if clubs will be ready when they return home.

The Blue Triangle is the symbol of a new and finer life for the women of Britain. Its Clubs will continue to be centres of social intercourse. The dullness of everyday life, the sordidness of many industrial centres, with the lack of social opportunity, have somehow got to be altered if we are to have a newer and better England in the future.

The Y.W.C.A. is ready to help in the difficult period now arising.

Need of the moment. *Emergency accommodation required at every port and railway terminus.*

Please send a contribution, and please do not for a moment slacken your interest in the girls who have helped to win the war.

Y.W.C.A.

Hon. Treas. for London Campaign:
The Viscount Hambleden,
19, Arlington Street, S.W.1.

National Treas.:
The Lord Sydenham of Combe,
26, George Street, Hanover Square, W.1.

Women Wartime Workers' Fund, Registered under the War Charities Act, 1916.

WHAT STATE IS SYRIA IN?

"The people have many of them endured the extremity of misery from hunger and cold, from robbery and cruelty, terror and anxiety. Many have lost all they had. Hundreds of thousands have died of starvation. Immorality has increased terribly because of famine."

WE CAN HELP THEM IF YOU WILL HELP US.

The people want

Hospitals,
Dispensaries,
Doctors,
Nurses,
Clothes,
Food,
Orphanages,
Schools,
Employment,

Please send cheque to the Secretary.

SYRIA & PALESTINE RELIEF FUND

(Registered under the War Charities Act, 1916.)

110, VICTORIA ST., LONDON, S.W.1.

WOMEN WORKERS & THE FUTURE.—1.

A New Booklet for Women Workers.

Every wage-earning woman knows that she cannot go on working for ever and that she must sooner or later face the problem of providing for her later years when she will wish to retire from active life or be forced to do so because she is no longer able to continue working.

An interesting booklet on this subject, entitled "The Future of Women Workers" has just been issued by the Scottish Widows Fund.

Written especially for women, it clearly shows the value of Mutual Life Assurance to women workers and explains how, by small annual payments out of present earnings, a woman may make provision for her own future, and, if necessary, for that of her dependents.

Secure a copy NOW and give it careful perusal! Sent free on request.

Scottish Widows Fund

LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY. Founded 1815.

The Largest British Mutual Life Office.

FUNDS 22 MILLIONS. CLAIMS PAID: 47 MILLIONS.

HEAD OFFICE: 9, St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh. 16, J. LIDSTONE, Manager and Actuary.

LONDON OFFICES: 28, Cornhill, E.C. 3; 17, Waterloo Place, S.W. 1.

advising employers and the police on matters of industrial law, providing the extra staff for the Post Office at Christmas, the selection of arrangements for women employed in timber-felling, and the training of soldiers' and sailors' widows.

To this Department belong the Whitley Committees ; the Labour Advisory Boards ; the Local Advisory Committees which consist of Employers, Trade Union officials, Social and Welfare Workers and others, uniting each Exchange to all local organisations for dealing with disabled soldiers. There are also Advisory Wages Committees which settle the wages to be paid to disabled men, having regard to their disabilities.

Further, there are the Junior Advisory Committees, composed of Employers, Workers, Educational Authorities, and After Care officials, to confer and advise upon the placing of children in industry when they leave school, giving all possible consideration to their physical suitability and apparent capacity and tastes.

These are some of the activities, duties, and functions of this amazing Department ; and to them has now been added the incredible task of demobilisation. It is the officers of the Ministry of Labour and the Labour Exchanges who have registered industrially the whole Army, who will demand the release of men by trades and districts as work arises for them, who grant railway permits to discharged munition workers, and to whom will be entrusted the colossal task of the demobilisation insurance scheme, by which two-fifths of the population, roughly speaking, will become, for a time at least, insured against unemployment. Much of the above information was obtained through the courtesy and kindness of one of the officials to whose indefatigable industry and enthusiasm the smooth working of all these activities in several counties is due :—

"And still I gazed, and still the wonder grew
That one small head could carry all he knew."

Carol Ring.

Reviews.

A Share in Your Motherland. By H. N. Brailsford. (Headly Bros. Ltd., 72, Oxford Street, W. 1. Price 7d.)

"A Share in Your Motherland" is an attractive little pamphlet reproducing five articles by Mr. Brailsford which have recently appeared in *The Herald*. Included among these is "Equal Pay and the Family Wage," the substance of which is also to be found in the Shilling book bearing a similar title, issued by the Endowment of Motherhood Committee, of which Mr. Brailsford is himself a member. This book has been already noticed in The Common Cause. The present article gives a brief and dispassionate synopsis of the "Endowment and Equal Pay" argument, set out with that scholarly regard for fact, even inconvenient fact, which gives distinction to all Mr. Brailsford's work.

Those who fear being rushed into something they have an instinct against may safely commit themselves to him. He does not cry, "It is nought, it is nought!" but freely admits that what he advocates is, for good or for evil (he thinks for good) the thin end of a wedge.

It may be noted that the objection to the Endowment scheme which has been raised, is not dealt with either in Mr. Brailsford's article, nor, so far as we can recollect, elsewhere. An answer to a certain query should be of interest to many who are entering upon a study of the question with an open mind. The query is, "Will, or will not, direct payments from the State to a large body of women in the prime of life create in them a too facile spirit of acquiescence, a too servile reliance upon the benevolence of the powers that be?" We do not doubt that the advocates of Endowment have a convincing answer to this question. A. H. W.

RECENT VERSE.

Satire and Sentiment. By W. N. Ewer. (The Herald. 1s. 6d. net.)
Lazarus and other Poems. By M. Winifred Hughes. (Chapman and Hall. 2s.)
New Poems. By D. H. Lawrence. (Martin Secker. 2s. 6d.)

One looks in vain in Mr. Ewer's book for something to match that remarkably moving poem of his, "Three Souls," with its memorable refrain. Mr. Ewer's satire is not very mordant (though obviously the expression of profound indignation and idealism), but it is neatly expressed. "Cousins German" and "Whom the King delighteth to honour," are clever, and there is a swinging rhythm about "Gentlemen" which should make it a good song. His sentiment is often pleasant, particularly in "Spring in the Street"; the third stanza, with "An old man pushing a barrow and selling daffodils," will wake an echo in most Londoners' hearts. The book is charmingly printed and is pocket size.

Miss Hughes also knows London : "The Elephant" is a vivid piece of descriptive verse. But most of her poems are quiet and reflective; "An Old Garden," with its calendar of seasons, sounds, scents, and colours, is charming; and so is "Harvest Night" :

"With grey and black and gold moonlight
September is coming in, mellow and sweet;
In the soft, deep peace of a harvest night
Stealing upon us with silent feet.

"The silver dust of the stars, upblown,
Is falling in meteors down the sky;
And like an etching, all alone,
A great elm rears its head on high."

Mr. D. H. Lawrence is a considerable poet; but he will never be popular; he is too obscure in matter and difficult in manner. "New Poems" are more conventional, less passionate, and less exotic than

"Poems," but they are still strange enough to baffle and repel the casual reader, unless he happened on a couplet such as:—

"The factories on the Surrey-side
Are beautifully laid in black on a gold-grey sky";

or on "Coming Awake," or "Everlasting Flowers"—the latter a quiet poem with a beautiful end. "Two Wives"—a sequence of five poems—reads like a portion of one of Mr. Lawrence's queer clever novels condensed into verse: it is not the more intelligible; but it begins strikingly, with a "*Symphonie en Blanc Majeur*":—

"Into the shadow-white chamber silts the white
Flux of another dawn. The wind that all night
Long has waited restless, suddenly wafts
A whirl like snow from the plum trees and the pear,
Till petals heaped between the window shafts
In a drift lie there.

"A nurse in white, at the dawning, flower-foamed pane
Draws down the blinds, whose shadows scarcely stain
The white rugs on the floor, nor the silent bed
That rides the room like a frozen berg. . . ."

In Defense of Women. By H. L. Mencken. (Philip Goodman, New York, $1.35.)

"Mencken's latest," as his publisher calls Mr. Mencken's *In Defense of Women*, is a clever book, quite the sort of thing a very young man or a very old man might feel proud to have written. The author sums up at the end thus: "There is no book on women by a man, at least in the English language, that is not a stupendous compendium of posturings and imbecilities. There are but two books that show even a superficial desire to be honest—*The Unexpurgated Case Against Woman Suffrage*, by Sir Almroth Wright, and this one." And indeed there is much in common between Sir Almroth's brand of honesty and Mr. Mencken's. Both are too busy being "honest" to be either artistically or scientifically truthful. Fortunately some of the book is really witty writing. Mr. Mencken's views about the woman voter are expressed thus: "The opposition to the extension of the suffrage, when it is not frankly sentimental and hence without any standing in logic whatsoever, is commonly based upon a mistaken fear of the woman voter. That fear arises out of confusing her with the suffragette. The two, in fact, are quite distinct, and even antagonistic." This remark has just enough truth in it to make the experienced "suffragette" laugh.

Correspondence.

DEMOBILISATION.

MADAM,—At the present moment when our national reserves of everything except munitions of war are exhausted, surely the first essential is to keep every available producer busy. And yet in "The Times," last week, we read that those who patriotically came forward to do work whilst we were at war are asked now, equally on patriotic grounds, to "go quietly home."

What sort of economics is this that would turn producers into consumers? Is it not more than ever necessary, both for our self-respect and the nation's welfare, that each one of us shall pull his (and her) own weight?

The problem of unemployment is not to be solved by sending back into idleness the thousands of women who, in carrying on for their men, have not only enriched the State, but have discovered in citizenship a new reality.

DOROTHY T. STEVENSON.

WOMEN AND DOMESTIC SERVICE.

MADAM,—In reply to the letter of "W. A. T.," published in your issue of November 29th, I should imagine that in this matter, as in many others, we are suffering for the sins of a former generation. Many women not yet qualified by age for enfranchisement can remember the time when the average domestic servant received at the utmost twenty or twenty-two pounds per annum; when she was on duty from six in the morning till ten at night (later, if the family were out at an entertainment) when her leisure time was limited to one evening out per week and alternate Sunday afternoons; when she was frequently expected, in addition to doing all the housework, to take charge of two or three small children and sleep with them in her room at night; and when her mistress, for sheer lack of other intellectual occupation, amused herself by ceaseless criticism and supervision of every detail of the unfortunate girl's private life. No wonder if the ranks of domestic servants were depleted just as rapidly as other forms of occupation opened themselves to enterprising young women; until to-day it is fairly safe to assume that if a girl goes into service she is either too delicate or too dull or too "unsettled" to be a success anywhere else—a fact which is often rather hard on her employer! However, I do not share "W. A. T.'s" dark forebodings that "family life will come to an end altogether" unless the iniquitous old living-in system can be restored. Some of the happiest families I know keep no servants at all; and in the future we may perhaps look forward to some system such as that recently suggested by Miss Clementina Black—a central hostel for highly-trained, well-paid domestic workers sent out by the day, one or two or more according to the demands of each household; returning when their work was done to a cheerful communal life with plenty of recreation, plenty of congenial companionship, plenty of fresh air, and plenty of money. The present arrangement suits nobody; least of all the mistress with a tender social conscience, who, in terror of being classed with the old Victorian tyrants, often allows herself to be imposed upon in a shameless fashion.

M.

WOMEN POLICE.

MADAM,—There must be many women at this moment who, having done splendid service as V.A.D.'s, clerks, organisers, &c., during the war, are now beginning to see an end to their labours. Many of them will want to find a fresh vocation, in which they can exercise the knowledge of social conditions, habits of discipline, and ability to lead others, which they have acquired.

Do you keep a Bowl of Water

in front of your Gas Fire?

It is really quite unnecessary. Presumably it is put there to prevent the air of the room becoming "dry" and consequently absorbing moisture from the skin of the occupants?

But radiant heat does *not* raise the temperature of the air or dry it, and the modern gas fire gives out from 70 to 80 per cent of its warmth in the form of radiation. The small residue of convected heat is of such comparatively low temperature that the air is directly affected only to an inappreciable extent.

Hence there is no unpleasant and unhealthy "stuffy" atmosphere in an adequately ventilated room heated by means of a modern and properly-fitted gas fire, while it has been clearly established that in the present emergency the use of such fires contributes to the national interest.

The important question of the distinction between radiant and convected heat is fully discussed in a booklet entitled "A Bowl of Water", which will be forwarded to any enquirer who communicates with the undersigned.

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IF you do not now face up to the problem of providing a suitable income against the day when you can no longer expect to be among the income-earners, what possible ground have you for feeling that later on you may be better able to do so?

It is a problem that has haunted many a woman in the past and, if shirked even till another birthday has passed, its ultimate solution becomes all the more difficult.

Independence is the birthright of the Englishwoman equally with the Englishman, and a Pension or Endowment Policy with the NORWICH UNION LIFE INSURANCE SOCIETY is the best foundation of solid independence which can be laid as against the time when well-earned rest ought to follow on work well done.

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The Bristol Training School for Policewomen and Patrols offers maintenance during a three months' training, which enables candidates to sample the work, and to judge of their fitness for it; they are then passed on to posts. All particulars will be sent to those who apply to me at 6, Berkeley Square, Bristol.

D. O. G. PETO, Director.

National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.

The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.
President: MRS. HENRY FAWCETT, LL.D.

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Telegraphic Address—Voiceless, Ox, London. Telephone—Museum 2668.

Headquarter Notes.

It is hardly necessary to say that the office at Headquarters is overwhelmingly busy, the rush of work caused by the near approach of the General Election being very considerable.

Speakers are much needed to support the N.U.W.S.S. women candidates, and to assist those candidates who in the past proved themselves staunch upholders of the suffrage cause. Will those speakers who are not already in communication with Headquarters, and are free to offer their services, write to Miss Jones, Hon. Secretary, N.U.W.S.S.?

We are still asking for subscriptions to our Women M.P.'s Fund. Money is needed if we are to give the help that is required. Subscriptions should be sent to the Hon. Treasurers Mrs. H. A. L. Fisher and Miss Rosamond Smith, Evelyn House, 62, Oxford Street, W.1.

Anyone willing to help women candidates in different parts of the country should send their names to Headquarters; in some cases hospitality might be arranged for.

A New Election Leaflet.

Secretaries of Societies will be receiving packets of a new leaflet this week, in which the programme of the National Union is set out, and lists of questions which should be asked the Candidates are given. These leaflets should be distributed as widely as possible, especially among the women voters: who should be instructed to ask questions at the various candidates' meetings, on the lines of those in the leaflets.

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	£	s.	d.
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Dr. Jenny C. Muller ...	1	0	0
Mrs. Ritchie	1	0	0
The Misses J. & F. Barker	10	0	0
Miss Mary Hare		5	0
Miss A. M. Royden ...	5	0	0
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Sir Robert Newman, M.P. ...		5	0
Mrs. Osler	5	0	0
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Miss E. D. Spence ...		2	6
Mrs. Luff	1	0	0
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Miss Mary L. Bruce ...	1	0	0
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Miss R. Saint		5	0
Mrs. Hilda Crook	2	0	0
Mrs. Ernest Milne	1	0	0
Mrs. Shercliff		10	0
Dr. Julia L. Pringle	1	0	0
Miss Helen M. England... ...		10	6
Mrs. A. J. White	2	2	0
Mrs. Napier	5	0	0
Mrs. C. Thompson	2	0	0
A. L. S.		2	6
Miss M. E. Knight	1	1	0
Miss Constance Smith		10	0
Mrs. W. A. Wills	2	0	0
Lady Beilby	5	0	0
Anonymous	5	0	0
Miss Batchelor & Miss Dunn ...		10	0
Mrs. T. Hess	1	1	0
Mrs. J. T. Dunn	1	0	0
Mrs. Simpson	5	0	0
Miss M. Morice		7	6
Miss I. C. Kempthorne	1	0	0
Miss Hilda Whiteley	3	3	0
Miss Adah Maud Allen		5	0
Miss E. A. Barrett		2	6
Mrs. S. Lake		2	6
Miss A. T. Lumsden		10	0
Miss Jocelyn Dunlop	2	2	0
Miss E. L. Dunlop...	2	0	0
Mrs. Lilian Fletcher		10	0
Miss Agnes Teacher	2	0	0
Dr. W. Bruce Lindsay	1	0	0
Miss Margaret Burd		5	0
Miss A. C. Thompson		10	6
Dr. Ethel Crawford		10	0
Mr. & Mrs. H. B. Spencer ...	1	0	0
Miss J. Drew	1	0	0
Mrs. M. K. Richardson		5	0
Mrs. A. Cunningham		5	0
Dr. M. E. Franklin	1	1	0
Dr. Anne Martin	1	0	0
Madame Eliz. Loppé	5	0	0
Miss E. M. Rope		1	0
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Miss F. B. Taylor	1	1	0
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Mrs. E. M. Newton	1	1	0
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Mrs. A. J. M. Montague ...	1	1	0
Mrs. Edward Hecht	2	0	0
Miss M. C. Allbright	3	0	0
Mrs. Curwen		10	0
Miss Elsie M. Miller	5	0	0
Dr. May Thorrs		15	0
Mrs. M. A. Grace	10	0	0
Mrs. Thomas Bartleet	5	0	0
Mrs. E. A. Bishop		10	0
Mrs. Mary W. Godwin	10	0	0
Mrs. A. D. Sawyer		10	0
Miss R. T. Ridley		5	0
Miss M. A. Sainsbury		2	6
Mr. Walter H. Heath		10	6
Jan	1	0	0
Mrs. Cubitt Sayers		10	0
Mrs. L. de L. Gwatkin	1	0	0
Mrs. William Thomson ...		10	0
Mrs. Long		7	0
Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Berry ...	1	0	0
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Miss Agnes Dawson		5	0
Mr. and Mrs. Hugh Moncrieff	5	0	0
Mrs. Frances H. Stratton ...		10	0
Mrs. Carlisle	1	1	0
Mrs. Ogilvie	2	10	0
Mrs. E. Holme	1	0	0
Miss L. Deane		10	6
Miss Rachel H. Irwin	1	0	0
Mrs. Catherine Ballantyne ...		10	0
Miss Meriel Talbot	5	0	0
Miss B. L. Hutchins	2	0	0
Mrs. McThwaite	5	0	0
Mrs. James Stuart	5	0	0
Mrs. Millicent L. Jameson ...		10	0
Dr. Elizabeth Walker Dunbar	2	2	0
Mrs. A. P. Hilson		5	0
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Mrs. H. T. Gillett	1	0	0
Dr. Mildred Thynne	5	0	0
Miss F. Dismore		5	0
Miss Hovey	1	1	0
Miss E. H. Hovey		5	0
Miss D. Allen-Brown	1	1	0
Mrs. Augustine Spicer	2	2	0
Miss Imray		5	0
Miss Muir MacKean	1	0	0
Miss Paynter	1	0	0
Miss Mary Moss		2	6
Dorking and Leith Hill W.S.S.	7	0	0
Mrs. Frances Pumphrey ...	100	0	0
Mrs. A. G. Peacock		5	0
Mrs. R. H. Stevenson	1	0	0
Miss Frances Pelle	1	0	0
Mrs. Common	1	0	0
Miss Joyce Common		10	0
Mrs. Gregory	1	0	0
Mrs. C. Hensley Hopkins ...		2	0
Mrs. Harold Grimsdale... ...	1	0	0
Mrs. W. Rintoul	1	1	0
Miss B. M. Skeat		2	6
Miss Mary L. Huckwell ...	2	0	0
Miss C. I. Macdonald		2	0
Miss J. Clarke & Mrs. Dudley	1	1	0
Mrs. F. H. Gossage	5	0	0
Mrs. Kayser	1	0	0
Miss Hodgkinson		2	6
The Misses Sturge	2	12	6
Miss Isabel Thomas		5	0
Anonymous		10	0
Dr. Winifred D. Martin ...	1	1	0
Mrs. F. F. Johnstone	2	0	0
Miss E. R. Balling	2	0	0
Miss C. F. Fellows		5	0
Mrs. C. Selby		10	0
Miss Alice T. Glyde	1	0	0
Miss D. A. Courtney	2	2	0
W. Herts. W.S.S.	2	2	0
Miss Ethel Buxton		10	0
Miss Soames	1	0	0
Dr. Ethel M. Vaudrey		10	0
Dr. Dora E. Bunting	1	1	0
The Misses Leith	5	0	0
Miss Isabelle R. Cooper ...		2	6
Mrs. Eleanor Garrett	2	2	0
Miss Charlotte Docura		10	0
Miss Alice Gaunt	1	1	0
Mrs. Benson Clough	1	0	0
Miss G. Harlock		5	0
Mrs. George & Miss Elworthy	2	0	0
Mrs. G. H. Lomas		2	6
Miss Lilian Howell	2	2	0
Mrs. J. A. Gotch		5	0
Miss Ethel M. Naish	1	0	0
Lady Gibb	1	1	0
Miss J. Swindells and Friend	1	1	6
Sidmouth W.S.S.	2	0	0
Mrs. Lilian F. Winchester ...		5	0
Miss M. K. C. Maistre		10	0
Mrs. Raleigh		10	6
Miss M. A. Rice	1	1	0
Mrs. J. P. Boyd-Carpenter ...	2	2	0
Mrs. Stephen Spring Rice ...	1	0	0
Huntingdon W.S.S.		5	0
Mrs. E. Slater		5	0
Miss E. M. Greg	1	0	0
Mrs. E. L. Barton		1	0
Dr. Sybil I. Welsh	1	0	0
Miss S. M. Robinson		1	0
Dr. Janet G. Horwood	1	0	0
Miss Moodie and Miss Henderson		10	0
Miss S. E. Henty	1	0	0
Mrs. Wheatley		2	6
Miss M. H. Clayton (collected)		7	0
Miss Lucy Fairbrother		2	6
Miss M. Ruth Wilson	1	0	0
Miss Fanny Graham		7	0
Miss M. J. Shaen	2	0	0
Miss K. J. B. Warton		2	0
Mrs. Chate	1	0	0
Mrs. Longland	1	0	0
Miss Catharine Berridge ...		5	0
Dr. Mary E. Martin		10	0
Miss Alice Sharmon	1	0	0
Mrs. John Lewis		5	0
Miss Annie M. Davies	1	1	0
Miss Gaskell	5	0	0
Miss Morison		5	0
A Music Teacher		3	0
Miss Helen L. Powell		10	0
Miss Harriet M. Johnson ...	1	0	0
Dr. Evelyn Fisher	1	1	0
Miss J. M. Meade-King	1	0	0
Miss Anna Martin	1	0	0
Miss Amelia Stafford	1	10	0
Mrs. Savery	2	10	0
The Misses Sibly	2	10	0
Miss Hilda Sheldon		10	0
Two Friends of Dr. Charis Davies		4	6
Miss Madelaine Portway ...		2	6
Mrs. Eustace Smith	3	3	0
Miss Janet Brooke	1	0	0
Mrs. Margaret Paynter ...	1	0	0
Miss L. Dickins		5	0
Mrs. Gutteridge	2	0	0
Mrs. Fielding Hall	1	1	0
Miss Fullager		10	0
Mrs. George Frere	1	0	0
Mrs. Massy	1	1	0
Miss A. M. Offer		5	0
Miss M. F. Pugh	3	3	0
Mrs. Freeston		10	0
Miss Dorothy Giles	1	0	0
Mrs. Marshall	1	0	0
Mr. Frederick Merrifield ...	1	1	0
Mrs. Best		10	0
Mrs. T. A. Cash		5	0
Mrs. S. M. Jebb	1	0	0
Miss F. J. Jackson		2	6
Mr. J. H. Gimson	1	1	0
Miss K. F. Jones		10	0
Miss Evelyn Sanderson		2	6
Miss E. Maude		2	6
Miss Marshall		10	6
Miss Kathleen Freeston ...		5	0
Mr. Victor Herrmann	2	2	0
Lady Crofton	1	0	0
Miss Agness Fry	1	1	0
Miss Mary F. Oakley-Coles ...	1	1	0
Mrs. M. E. Rotherford		10	0
Mrs. W. H. Geldart	1	0	0
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	£733	9	6

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Already acknowledged	443	12	8
Mrs. Carter		11	6
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WOMEN M.P.'S.

The following are the women candidates standing at the General Election :—

Mrs Pethick Lawrence, Rusholme Division, Manchester (Labour).

Miss Mary Macarthur, Stourbridge (Labour).

Miss Violet Markham Mansfield Division Notts. (Liberal).

Mrs. How Martyn, Hendon (Independent).

Miss Eunice Murray, Bridgeton Division, Glasgow (Independent).

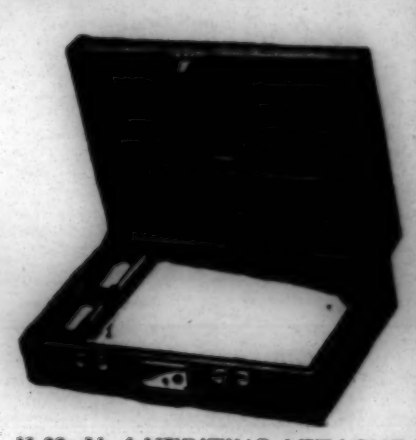
Mrs. Janet McEwan, Enfield (Liberal).

Mrs. Dacre Fox, Richmond (Independent).

Miss Christabel Pankhurst, Smethwick (Staffs) (Women's Party).

Peter Robinson's Gift Suggestions

K. 25. Dainty "DOROTHY" BAG—White Metal. In fine Chain Mesh. Size, 6 inches by 4 inches **23/6**

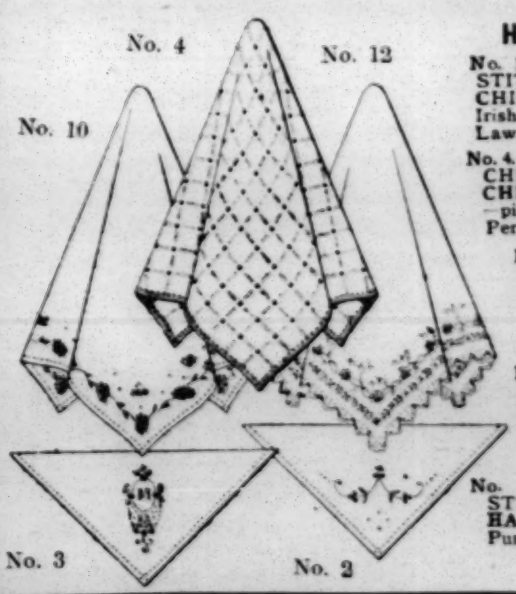


K. 28. Useful WRITING ATTACHE CASE in Polished Roan, with pocket for cheque book. Size, 12 ins. by 8 ins. by 3 ins. **47/6**

K. 33. ATTACHE CASE in strong Brown Fibre, with Steel Frame—

Size—14 ins.	16 ins.	18 ins.	20 ins.
21/6	25/6	28/6	31/6

K. 29. BRIAR PIPE—9ct. Gold Mount "Bruyere Antique" **12/6**



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No. 10. LADIES' HEM STITCHED HANDKERCHIEFS, embroidered, in Irish Shamrock Lawn. Per dozen **23/6**

No. 4. LADIES' PRINTED CHECK HANDKERCHIEFS, assorted colours—pink, blue & mauve Per dozen **4/6**

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No. 3. LADIES' HEMSTITCHED INITIAL HANDKERCHIEFS in Pure Irish Linen. Per dozen **12/9**

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Snow-White Irish Linen Damask Tablecloths. Superior quality. Very Slightly Imperfect. Floral and Conventional designs.
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Irish Linen Damask Serviettes. Superior Quality. Very Slightly Imperfect. 22 ins. **16/6**, 24 ins. **22/6**, 25 ins. **27/6** per doz.

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Mrs. Corbett Ashby, Ladywood Division, Birmingham (Liberal).
Mrs Hope, East Fife (Independent).
Miss Alison Garland, Portsmouth, South (Liberal).
Mrs Despard, Battersea, North (Labour).
Mrs. Oliver Strachey, Bentford and Chiswick (Independent).

The National Council of Trained Nurses has invited Mrs. Bedford Fenwick to stand in the interests of the nursing profession.

EXTRACTS FROM THE ELECTION ADDRESSES OF WOMEN CANDIDATES.

MRS. PETHICK LAWRENCE.

Reconstruction.

Social Reconstruction is the business of the next Parliament. I support all the resolutions adopted at the Labour Conference of June, 1918. These include Restitution of Trade Union Conditions; National Scheme of Housing carried out with capital supplied by National Government; National Non-Militaristic Education on basis of social equality from nursery school to University; Prevention of Unemployment; Minimum Wage; Equal Pay for Equal Work; Increased Old-Age Pension; Nationalisation of Railways, Shipping, Canals, Mines, Banks, and Land; Nationalisation of the Drink Traffic; Abolition of the Poor Law and Development of Municipal Health Service; Free Trade and the Open Door in Commerce; Admission of women to full political rights on an equality with men; and Pensions for Mothers, who, deprived of the breadwinner of the family, have to tend and provide for dependent children.

Repeal of Repressive Legislation.

I stand for the immediate *repeal of Military Conscription* and of every form of Industrial Conscription; believing Conscription to be the supreme expression of arbitrary force in contra-distinction to self-governing freedom; for the repeal of D.O.R.A., for the immediate restoration of civil liberties, and for the immediate release of all political prisoners.

The vital question of sex morality can only be dealt with by men and women taking counsel together.

MISS EMILY PHIPPS, B.A.

Although standing as a non-party candidate, I heartily support the policy of utterly defeating German militarism, believing that our glorious victory must be consummated by such peace as will for generations prevent a resumption of war.

In Trade, on account of the special circumstances arising out of the war, I support a measure of Protection for our national industries, and Preference for our Colonies, but no Food Taxes.

Other necessary reforms are Equal Pay for Equal Work, irrespective of sex; the establishment of a Ministry of Health, with an adequate proportion of Women representatives; the presence of Women on all Local bodies and on all Reconstruction Committees, on Trade Boards, Education and Health Committees, and on the Watch Committees of Local Councils; the opening of all trades and professions to Women on equal terms with men; the appointment of Women judges and magistrates.

I also advocate better housing, the provision of a pure milk supply, and adequate wages for all workers, since it is better to prevent disease than to spend millions in trying to cure it. Illegitimate children should be better protected, and should be legitimatized on subsequent marriage of their parents; divorce laws should be equalised as between men and women, and there should be an equal moral standard for the sexes.

Greater attention should be paid to Education; every child should have the opportunity of revealing aptitude for languages, science, &c. It is only by utilising all available talent that we can develop the resources of our country. We want more teachers, and they should be well-qualified teachers.

MRS. HOW MARTIN undertakes to support the Coalition in so far as it honestly and consistently attempts to carry out its programme, but she *will vote against any Government which dishonours its pledges or evades its responsibilities.* With regard to Women's Interests she says: "The difficulties involved in transferring women from war work to peace industries, the question of equal pay for equal work, the economic position of the wife and mother, the treatment of widows with dependent children, the welfare of babies and children, the age of consent, reform of the drink trade by local option, equalising the divorce and inheritance laws, the social evils of prostitution and venereal diseases all call for women's experience directly in legislation. *I uphold most decidedly the equal treatment of men and women before the law and in the administration of the law.* If returned to Parliament I shall do all in my power to promote an equally high moral standard for men and women, to open all professions and occupations to women, and to remove all women's artificial disabilities. Parliament needs first-hand information from women on all these matters."

The following are some of the principles laid down in **MRS. DESPARD'S** Election Address:—

1. (*a*) The State endowment of motherhood.
   (*b*) Military training to cease at once in all our schools.
   (*c*) The children to begin their life-work later, and the shops and factories they enter to be subject to rigorous inspection, in regard to sanitary conditions.
2. Land Nationalisation, on which must follow nationalisation of mines, transport (shipping and railways) and agriculture.
3. Pending the coming in of a changed social order, a minimum wage for workers in all industries, based on the cost of living and allowing a fair margin for recreation; and increased Old-age Pensions.
4. Equal political rights for men and women and equal pay for equal work.

5. The complete withdrawal of conscription (military and industrial) and the Defence of the Realm Act.

[Regulation 40 D has been withdrawn; but a Bill on similar lines will probably be introduced next Session. I pledge myself to oppose all such penal legislation.]

6. Reform of the marriage laws.
7. Rehousing on a scale commensurate with the needs of the people.
8. Justice to Ireland and India.
9. Adequate provision and protection for disabled men and women.
10. Representation of Labour in the Peace Congress to take the form of an International Workers' Parliament sitting at the same time and in the same place as the Peace Congress.
11. Pending universal disarmament the manufacture of munitions of war to be taken out of private hands.
12. The formation of a League of Free Peoples in Europe and America.
13. The replacement of Empires by Federations, each member possessing its own domestic autonomy.
14. In place of war indemnities, such reparation as is possible of devastated lands and ruined homes, the process to be carried on by an International Board.
15. No Secret Treaties and no economic war after the war.

The following are some of the principles laid down in **MISS MARY MACARTHUR'S** Election Address:—

1. THE RESTORATION OF FREEDOM.

I will fight for Free Speech—a Free Press—Free Trial—for Social, Economic, and Political Freedom.

2. A MAN'S PAY FOR A MAN'S WORK.

It should be illegal to employ a woman on the same work as a man for less pay. The standard of life must not be lowered by unfair competition.

3. A FAIR SYSTEM OF TAXATION.

We shall have a war-debt of Seven Thousand Million. Those who can best afford it must pay. *I am against all taxes on food.* The Income Tax limit should be raised and further relief given in respect of family responsibilities. Super-Taxes and Death Duties should be increased. I am in favour of a Capital Levy exempting possessions under £1,000 and pressing lightly on possessions under £5,000.

4. PUBLIC GOOD BEFORE PUBLIC PROFIT.

Land, Railways, Canals, Coal and Iron Mines, Life Assurance, Banking, Electricity, and similar monopolies should be made public property, run for public good and not for private profit. Equitable compensation should be given to existing owners and shareholders.

For the Election Address of Mrs. Corbett Ashby and Mrs. Oliver Strachey, see THE COMMON CAUSE, November 29th.

Twenty-three residents of North St. Pancras have issued a statement of the record of the sitting Member and prospective Liberal Candidate, Sir Willoughby Dickinson, in connection with questions of interest to women and particularly that of women's suffrage. In view of this splendid record they appeal to the women electors of North St. Pancras to vote for Sir Willoughby.

THE NATIONAL UNION OF TRAINED NURSES.

At a meeting on November 23rd of the N.U.T.N. the following resolutions were passed:—

(1) "That this meeting welcomes the introduction of a Ministry of Health Bill by the Minister of Reconstruction and, in view of the grave delay of the past eighteen months and the dangers of racial infection, during demobilisation, urges the Government to proceed with such a measure as the foundation of racial, and therefore of all, reconstruction."

(2) "That this meeting urges upon the Government the need of the State Registration of Trained Nurses and of a General Nursing Council, as an indispensible corollary of the establishment of a Ministry of Health."

N.U.W.S.S. Scottish Women's Hospitals.

Names of Beds.	*Donrs.*
"Beauchamp" (Salonica, further 3 months)	Per Mrs. Balfour, Stobo.
"Peebles" (Corsica, further 3 months)	Per Mrs. Balfour, Stobo.
"Tweeddale" (Salonica, further 3 months)	Per Mrs. Balfour, Stobo.
"Scottie" (Salonica, further 6 months)	The Misses Duguld, Blairs, nr. Aberdeen.
"Conservative and Unionist Women's Franchise Association" (Royaumont, further 6 months)	Per Mrs. Fletcher, Hon. Treas.
"6th Gordon Highlanders' Bed," In Memory of the men of the Territorial Regt. who have fallen (Salonica, further 1 year)	Mrs. Davidson, Cullen.
"Emily Francis Siddon" (Corsica, further 6 months)	Huddersfield W.S.S., per Mrs. Harrop, Hon. Treas.

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1s. 9d., 3s., and 9s. of all Chemists.
James Woolley, Sons & Co., Ltd.
MANCHESTER.

Forthcoming Meetings (N.U.W.S.S).

DECEMBER 6.

Bradford—Rossefield School, Heaton (by kind permission of Miss Gregson and Miss Rendall)—Speaker: Miss Hartop—Subject: "What we Stand for Now" 3 p.m.

DECEMBER 9.

West Bromwich—Library Lecture Room—Annual Meeting of West Bromwich Society—Business Meeting followed by an Address—Speaker: Miss F. C. Ford—Subject: "Equality"

DECEMBER 10.

Birmingham—Selly Oak Institute—Mrs. Ring 8 p.m.

DECEMBER 11.

Birmingham — Hallam's Factory — Speaker: Mrs. Ring—Subject: "Use of the Vote" 1.25 p.m.

Coming Events.

DECEMBER 10.

Westminster — Caxton Hall — Britain and India at Home—Speaker: Mr. Bhupendranath Basu (introduced by Lord Leverhulme)—Subject: "Womanhood in Hindu-India"—Refreshments 7-9 p.m.

JANUARY 25.

Westminster — 25, Tothill Street — Labour Research Department Conference on "International Labour Legislation and the Peace Treaty" 3 p.m.

MISS MAUDE ROYDEN preaches in the City Temple, Holborn Viaduct, next Sunday, at the 6.30 p.m. service: "The Solution of the Problem of Suffering in the Book of Job."

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

BRITISH WOMEN'S EMIGRATION ASSOCIATION.

INFORMATION and Advice, GRATIS, to Women and Girls of all Classes, Professional, Business, and Domestic. Escort provided for Children and others going to Friends or Situations. Teachers needed for Government Schools Overseas. "The Imperial Colonist," monthly, 2d., 2s. 6d. per annum, post free, gives practical information to intending Colonists.—Apply Miss LEFROY, Hon. Sec., The Imperial Institute, South Kensington, London, S.W.7.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S FRANCHISE CLUB, 9, Grafton-street, Piccadilly, W. 1.—Subscription: London Members £1 11s. 6d., Country Members £1 5s. per annum from date of entrance (Irish, Scottish, and Foreign Members 10s. 6d.). Weekly Lectures; House Dinners; Valuable Feminist Lending and Reference Library available to Members; Excellent Catering; Luncheons and Dinners à la Carte.—All particulars, Secretary. Tel.: Mayfair 3932.

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